

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 have been cancelled and claims 9-16 represent original claims
1-8 amended to conform to U.S. practice.

Examination on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian C. Oakes", is written over a horizontal line.

Brian C. Oakes

Registration No. 41,467

NIXON PEABODY LLP
401 9th Street, N.W.
Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20004-2128

(202) 585-8000